

critical digest

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This Week in NYC

A successful start of the Wed 7 30 PM curtain reported by all Broadway playhouses with fewer than expected latecomers noted. Though both the Long Island RR and the Pennsylvania RR were strikebound the first week of the early curtain, the New Haven RR announced an additional Wed 10 50 PM train to Stamford for theatregoers.

Players

Ten Broadway shows played to sell-out Labor Day matinee audiences, with seven reporting standees. Of ten that played special matinee, only Fiorello! played an evening performance... The Tenth Man cancelled Fri eve Sept 30 and Sat mat Oct 1 performances in observance of Yom Kippur, but will present two Sun performances at 2 30 and 8 30 Sept 25... Rhinoceros now set back to Jan 5 to allow Joseph Anthony to first complete staging of Under the Yum Yum Tree due Nov 16... Difficult Woman a new musical based on a South American film and play will be presented by Nick Fatula in Jan starring Yvonne de Carlo and Johnny Desmond, music by Richard Freitas, lyrics by Monty Neff and George Mysells... I'm With You musical by Dotty Wayne-Ray Rasch to be presented by Paul Gregory Feb 1 after a cross country tour with Nat King Cole, Barbara McNair.

The Emperor's New Clothes new musical version of fairy tale by Dean Fuller and Marshall Barer to include in its production "Living Screen" techniques developed by Ralph Alswang, which will allow a movie sequence to blend into a stage scene easily. Alswang worked under a Ford Foundation grant.

Players

Larry Kert left West Side Story after three year run to devote full time to promoting his new record albums, Don Griley replaced him... Paul Ford reopened in A Thurber Carnival with his arm in cast as a result of broken bone suffered in fall backstage during revue's Central City, Colo. run... William Bendix expected to replace Jackie Gleason, Take Me Along when latter's contract expires Oct 22... Evans Evans signed for 49th Cousin... Clifford Davis to be featured in Wildcat... Betsy Blair to replace Patricia Cutts, Face of a Hero... Gig Young to star in Under the Yum Yum Tree... Estate of Oscar Hammerstein II left to his widow and children. There are rumors that NY and Penn tax bureaus may fight over the inheritance claims.

NYC Calendar

Vintage '60- Atkinson 9/12, David Merrick & Zev Bufman-George Skaff-Mox Perkins present new musical revue which opened in April at Ivar Theatre, Hollywood. Directed by Jonathan Lucas with Barbara Heller, Jack Albertson, and Fay de Witt.

Dance of Death- Key (4 St Marks) 9/13. John Bowman-Richard Roffman present August Strindberg drama with Abe Vigoda, Alan Stevenson, Judith Valentine.

The World of Carl Sandberg - Miller 9/14. Armand Deutsch presents selection of Sandberg works adapted and directed by Norman Corwin with Bette Davis, Leif Erickson, Clark Allen.

Playhouses

Brooks Atkinson Theatre dedication of renaming of former Mansfield Theatre 256 W 47 attended by 300. Plaque reads "Brooks Atkinson--Author-Critic-Humanist To Whom This Theatre is Dedicated Sept 7, 1960 in Honor of 35 Years of Selfless Devotion to the Theatre."

Drama Desk

William Glover, NY news editor, named to replace the late Mark Barron as Associated Press drama critic.

Theatre TV Notes

H. M. S. Pinafore production of Stratford, Ont Festival was taped by Canadian Broadcasting Company in Sept and will be shown in an US-Canada simulcast in Oct following its NY Phoenix run... "Play of the Week" to appear in 56 cities this season.

Theatre Film Notes

The Devil's Advocate play now being adapted by Dore Schary for NY production later this season will be filmed by Warner Bros.

Theatre Record Notes

Laurence Harvey to make an album of dramatic readings for Atlantic Records.

Theatre Ad Notes

Macy's full page display ads featured Marcel Marceau and urged readers to subscribe to Friends of City Center series.

Off Broadway

Darwin's Theories a new revue with music and lyrics by Darwin Vennari to be presented Oct 12 at Madison Ave. Playhouse by author, who will also be in cast with Alan Alda, Betty Guy and Albie Gay.

Christopher Columbus by Michel de Ghelderode, adapted by George Haguer to be presented in Feb by Federated Productions, directed and choreographed by Edward Lion.

Martyn Green to be starred in O'Casey's Drums Under the Window now due at Cherry Lane Oct 13... Bill Butler has replaced Donald Allan Clayton as director of A Delightful Season, allowing latter to polish book, lyrics and music of show due Sept 28.

Top Secret producer-author-director Ida Lublenski Ehrlich offering free admission to her play at Barbizon Plaza which drew unanimous cons. She will try for a run for the production.

Legal Dept

American Federation of Musicians, Local 802, postponed its strike deadline against the League of NY Theatres to Sept 17. Contract talks continue though the "final" offer of the producers and theatre owners was voted down at a membership meeting. Items at issue include a wage boost, a pension plan, and enforced vacations of musicals due to contracts of stars.

Theatre Book Notes

"Act One" autobiography of Moss Hart published in 75c paperback edition by New American Library.

Shakespeare

NY Shakespeare Festival is considering presenting a second company next summer at East Hampton, NY, reports Farrell, World Telegram & Sun.



((Late News & Reviews--Supplement))

DIGESTS OF CURRENT NYC THEATRE REVIEWS

H. M. S. Pinafore- Phoenix 9/7. 7 pro- unanimous- raves filed on Tyrone Guthrie's modernized version of the Gilbert & Sullivan operetta presented by Stratford, Ont, Festival cast and Phoenix for a limited five week run. Eric House, Marion Studholme, Harry Mossfield, Andrew Downie shared plaudits with director and musical conductor Louis Applebaum. Taubman, Times, rated cast of festival caliber in voice and in acting with sprightliness, the performance is smooth and relaxed as a well-tuned motor. Kerr, Herald Tribune, enjoyed quaint and cozy, thoroughly delightful production, with its delectable players. Chapman, News, agreed with colleagues that Guthrie's changes were not as radical as he had expected and also agreed that players and chorus were excellent. Coleman, Mirror, liked the lively and hokey staging in the "don't miss" production. Watts, Post, also applauded fresh and delightful production with unhackneyed staging and songs well and clearly sung. Aston, World Telegram & Sun, hopes run can be extended for the entire winter for the coming season will have a tough time equally it. McClain, Journal American, tabbed it one of the best Gilbert & Sullivan productions we will ever see, with Guthrie giving it an enormous new verve and humor.

Marcel Marceau and his Compagnie de Mime-City Center 9/6. 7 pros- almost all raves- filed on twin presentation of NY City Center Theatre Company and Ronald Wilford. First half of bill are a set of "New Style Exercises" by Marcel, second half is mimodrama of Gogol's The Overcoat presented by Marcel and his company of nine. Current NY engagement, Marcel's third, is limited to three weeks. Taubman, Times, put Marcel in the rare, noble line of clowns whose creations tremble between laughter and tears, critic approved of both sections of program. Kerr, Herald Tribune, is beginning to think that Marceau is even better than he thought it was, emotionally speaking he is rapidly becoming the shortest distance between two points. Critic thought the mimodrama a sigh next to the "Mask Maker" sketch. Watt, News, cheered everyone concerned except the dance crowd first nighters who were responsible for most of the chattering during numbers and for the quick, nervous laughs of appreciation. Coleman, Mirror, agreed that first nighters picked "Mask Maker" as their favorite; Marcel proves again that a magnificent actor can project an emotion sans dialogue. Watts, Post, noted that now that we are familiar with his art and recognize him as a genius of pantomime we can appreciate his more complex work; again he made clear the wonder and beauty of his superb talent. Post man does question difference between Marceau's character "Bip" and his other creations, but is not worrying about it. Aston, World Telegram & Sun, raved about entire program except he felt the recorded music of Edgar Bischoff was too loud the opening night. McClain, Journal American, specially cheered the close teamwork between Marceau and his excellent trained company, a program which started the City Center off to a promising season.

Top Secret- Barbizon Plaza- 9/5. 5 cons- Times, Herald Tribune, Post, Journal American, World Telegram & Sun- filed on new anti Nazi play written, directed and produced by Ida Lublenski Ehrlich with Bjorn Koefoed, Francis Baird, John Clark and Gillin Spencer. Play and players, some of whom forgot their lines opening night, were panned. Most noted that author's dramatic skills did not equal her good intentions. Taubman, Times, rated her plotting and characterization rudimentary and the pace of direction as bumbling monotone. Kupferberg, Herald Tribune, couldn't find much of a play. Watts, Post, summed it as an inept melodrama, hopelessly clumsy. Aston, WTS, marked it monumentally inexcusable to expose the actors to such ridicule. McClain, Journal American, tabbed it as a bloody awful disaster, he left at the end of the second act and was a fool to stay that long.

INTER-

VIEW

HI-LITES



BRENDAN BEHAN, The Hostage author busy in NY with press and TV interviews, told Calt, Times, that he will join the NY Fire Dept if his play fails to win the support of public and critics. Irish author intends to insert several jokes about USA in his script, if he can think of any, he told Ross, Herald Tribune. Behan made minor history when he wore a tie backstage to visit Jackie Gleason, Take Me Along, detailed Mok, World Telegram & Sun.

MARCEL MARCEAU does not want to speak onstage, wanting to keep the mystery of the man who doesn't speak he told Ross, Herald Tribune. Mime believes he is at his peak and can spend 15 more years as a performer, and then will devote his time to being a director and producer. Ballet and mime are complete opposites, ballet expresses elevation, mime is bound to earth, he explained to Maurice Zolotow, Times.

TYRONE GUTHRIE had no hesitation criticizing the singing cast of H. M. S. Pinafore he told Cleaves, World Telegram & Sun. Director was trained as a singer, has opinions and is not too diffident to express them. Ten of the 29 cast are local NY replacements for the British and Canadian originals. In general he found the Americans less distinct in their articulation.

ARTHUR PENN, busy now with direction of both An Evening With Mike Nichols and Elaine May and All the Way Home admits he consistently has quilt feelings about being so busy, he told Schiff, Post. Though he may be overburdened he does not know where to cut down. His attitude in directing a play is based on the premise that it would be a perfect play if it didn't have to be directed.

GEORGE ABBOTT approves of Off Broadway as very healthy but still cannot see how it can compete with Broadway professionally, he told Baer, Journal American. Director-producer warned that Broadway will have to put a limit on its expense if NY is to continue as the nation's capitol of legitimate entertainment.

ARTHUR CANTOR-press agent and co-producer of The Tenth Man advises that play investing is only for people with rocks in their heads, he told Herridge, Post. It is certainly no place for money you need and the returns are getting smaller each year. This season Cantor has investments in--Becket, Irma La Douce, Do Re Mi, and the national company of Fiorello!

JOSH LOGAN recalled that he had his first Broadway flop last season with There Was a Little Girl, he told Wilson, Post. He did not want to bring play featuring Jane Fonda into NY, for he knew it was doomed. He was so prepared for failure that he attended a film the opening night, and never did read the con notices.

DAVID MERRICK does not believe in people working in theatre for "art," he told Santora, News. Never once has anyone come up to him and say he would work for nothing for the sheer pleasure of doing something for art. Everyone involved in Broadway production--producer, director, investor, actor--are interested in making money.



OUTER BROADWAY
THEATRE LETTER

College-----Community---- Summer

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College Theatre

Syracuse, NY, University School of Dramatics conducted a special short summer course "The Symposium on Magic Education" in co-sponsorship with the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Howard Stein to give Univ. of Iowa playwriting courses this session, replacing William Reardon on leave to finish a novel.

Ohio State University Theatre 1960-61 season includes--The Skin of Our Teeth, The Provoked Wife, Look Homeward Angel, Rashomon, Oklahoma and a series of 12 film classics.

Community Theatre

Lawrence Burris subbing this season as manager of Hershey Community Theatre until Dr Harry Chubb recovers from recent illness.

Winter Repertory

Actors Workshop Guild, San Francisco qualified for first year of Ford Foundation repertory grant by matching \$52,000. Three Penny Opera opens Sept 12 at group's Marine Theatre, with The Birthday Party by Harold Pinter continuing in their smaller Encore Theatre.

Kinderspell a new play by John Harding, which won a Ford Foundation Award, will be presented at Stage Society Theatre, Los Angeles Oct 7. It was presented in 1958 at Boston University.

The Mousetrap by Agatha Christie to be presented Sept 12 at North Jersey Playhouse, Paramus starring Faye Emerson. Another production will open in NY Nov 5 at Maidman Playhouse.

Apple in the Attic a new play by Lucille Logan, adapted from Mildred Jordan's novel about the Pennsylvania Dutch to be presented at Mountain Playhouse, Jennerstown, Penn starting Sept 13.



Summer Playhouses

Ephrata, Penn, Legion Star Playhouse to present summer season next year by John Cameron, producer of Guthrie, Penn. Playhouse.

Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Ashland, will present next summer --- A Midsummer Night's Dream, All's Well That Ends Well, Part 1-Henry IV, Hamlet and three performances of Ben Jonson's The Alchemist.

Drama Schools

Academy Royale Theatre founded by Frank J Hale, producer of Royal Poinciana Playhouse, Palm Beach Fla will start its first season Nov 1 under direction of Paul Crabtree. Sawyer Falk, Syracuse Univ, will act as advisor. Full scholarships to 15 between ages of 20 and 30 will be granted to the entire first class

Road Tours

American Shakespeare Festival national tour opens Sept 26 in Boston. 17 city schedule of A Midsummer Night's Dream and A Winter's Tale features guest star Bert Lahr in company directed by Jack Landau which includes--Douglas Watson; Margaret Phillips, Will Geer.

Suzanne Pleshette to portray the title role in national company of The Miracle Worker... Sound of Music national company tour starts Feb 1961.

London

Waiting in the Wings new play by Noel Coward opened to poor critical notices blaming author for dull script, but first night audience is reported as enjoying acting by Sybil Thorndike and cast.

The Princess which gave free tickets to American ballet panned by critics reported audience poll 40 to 1 in favour of play. Admission prices will resume next week.

The Connection to be presented in Feb by Peter Daubeny -Mike Weinberg-Seymour Hacker-Michael White...Horses in Midstream by US playwright Andrew Rosenthal due Sept 21 at Strand with Francoise Rosay.

Calendar- Current Tours

Best Man-Alcazar, San Francisco-9/12-17.

Destry Rides Again- Riveria, Las Vegas-9/12-17.

Duel of Angels- Blackstone, Chicago -9/12-17

Evening with Mike Nichols and Elaine May-Westport, Conn 9/12-17.

Fiorello- Shubert, Chicago-

Flower Drum Song-Curran-San Francisco 9/12-17.

Irma La Douce-National, Washington, D. C. 9/8-17

Face of a Hero-Walnut, Philadelphia- 9/14-17.

Majority of One- Shubert, Del-9/12-17.

Music Man- Auditorium, St Paul 9/14-17.

My Fair Lady- Playhouse-Wilmington-9/12/17.

Once Upon a Mattress-Erlanger, Chicago 9/12-17

Pleasure of His Company-Auditorium, Rochester 9/15-17-

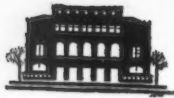
Raisin in the Sun- Wilbur Boston 9/12-17

Taste of Honey- Biltmore 9/6-17, Los Angeles.

Tenderloin-Shubert, New Haven 9/10-17.

World of Suzie Wong-Erlanger Philadelphia 9/12-17





FAMOUS FIRST NIGHTS

The Ladder- Mansfield-10/22/26-11/10/28, All NY daily reviewers except E. W. Osborn, Evening World, panned new romantic drama by J. Frank Davis directed and produced by Brock Pemberton, Antoinette Perry and Vernon Steele headed cast with Irene Purcell, Edgar Stehli, Ross Alexander. Drama based on re-incarnation with the same set of characters in 1300-1670-1844-1926 was backed by Edgar Davis, no relation to the author. Author was a former editor of Boston Transcript, major investor was Texas oil millionaire who lost over \$1,500,000 to keep show running. Edward Knoblock, author of Milestones, was reported to have ghost written more than half of the drama by its NY opening.

After a month's run at Mansfield play moved to Waldorf Theatre, 50th St East of Broadway, with Philip Merivale replacing Vernon Steele. Investor Davis is reported to have lost an average of \$10,000 weekly during the two year run to keep the production open, partly because he believed in its central theme of re-incarnation and partly because as a new-born oil magnate who recently sold his interests to Texas Co for \$12 million the weekly loss didn't seem like much. Religious groups and students were given free and specially priced admission tickets. Widespread display ads quoted ministers, educators and others. Diverse essay contests, letter contests, etc were instituted.

Christmas Day 1926 free tickets to the afternoon and evening performances were offered. The matinee house was half full, and the evening performance was barely full. Play continued its run, often playing to houses of several people. In March 1926 Pemberton sold his share to investor Davis and stated that he was only hired as general manager of the production inspired by Davis. The play closed a week in Feb 1927 due to lumbago of Perry, but resumed its run.

Times- J Brooks Atkinson- Actors gave letter perfect performance, did not miss pedal of verbal efflorescences strawn lavishly through dialogue, earnest author unaccustomed to writing for theatre.

Herald Tribune-Percy Hammond- It cospits of four little plays, all of them dull. It requires no special acting, and it got none.

News-Burns Mantle- A play of considerable variety of scene, but not much variety of thought or expression. Actors however have fine chance and most take advantage of it to their credit.

World-Alexander Wollcott- A large, richly upholstered piece of nothing at all, could be called "The Ladder or Antoinette Perry Through the Ages". Written with a heavy hand and a wooden vocabulary.

Sun- Gilbert W. Gabriel- Earnest, artless mound of words, a poorly written business, though colorfully produced.

Evening World-E W Osborn- Rich in incidents, possessed of interests more diverse than its change of scene, and having a more than a few moments of rare beauty. Gravity of its theme, dignity of its treatment, general excellence of acting entitle play to serious attention.

American-Alan Dale- Imagination of author hardly beyond delicatessen of sex. While crudely written was on the whole fairly well done. Perry seemed to lack finesse, but worked hard.



LATE NYC NEWS & REVIEWS

LATE NYC NEWS: Carol Lawrence missed several day's performances in West Side Story this week due to throat infection, Jan Canada subbed... Colleen Dewhurst and Lillian Gish signed for All the Way Home... Edith King to be featured in Wildcat... Roddy McDowell moved to star billing in Camelot... Greenwich Mews Theatre to present Donogoo, French satire by Jules Romains translated by James B Gidney and a revival of Sean O'Casey's Red Roses for Me, the former in Nov, the latter in Feb... Man and Superman which had posted a closing notice for the week-end will continue... Epitaph for George Dillon to be presented Off Broadway in the fall by George Morrison- Edward Hastings-Richard Lipsitt with James Patterson and Julie Follansbee... Loretta Leversee to be featured in Deep Are the Roots... Burr Tillstrom's Kuklapoitan Players may be presented Off Broadway in Nov by Joel Schencker-Cheryl Crawford... Tyrone Guthrie must return to England following direction of Love and Libel, thus cancelling plans to stage Subways Are for Sleeping musical and NY Shakespeare Festival production of Hamlet next summer. He will return to US in 1962 to set up the new repertory theatre in Minneapolis.

Sign of Jonah-Players- 9/8. 4 pro- Times, Herald Tribune, Post, World Telegram & Sun- and 1 con-Journal American- filed on Donald Goldman's production of Pastor Guenter Rutenborn's play adapted by George White, staged by Brian Shaw with David Ford, Guy Sothorn, Lorraine Serabian. Play was first presented in US three years ago at Union Seminary. Affirmative voters found play and discussion stimulating and thought-provoking, but found differences in production, while sole negative voter thought play itself too obscure. Taubman, Times, rave notice hailed stimulating, moving evening, with the play reverberating with subtle meanings, the author's mind rich in poet, his feelings intense and presented by a uniformly strong cast. Kerr, Herald Tribune, found moments now and again intellectually interesting without ever doing strong damage it means and ought to do. Part of blame may have been that players were too urgent, too ready to hammer at an argument that might have instead been insinuated. Watts, Post, rated it a striking dramatic parable, well worth serious attention, though he noted that he had found it more effective in the reading, this due to script's failure to achieve rising dramatic heights, not due to its production, sympathetic staging and interesting performances. Aston, WTS, recommended non-denominational play that turned into two hours of search and storm. He was impressed with technique of planted cast members in audience arguing with onstage actors. Sole dissstner McClain, Journal American, admitted play was written with intelligence and really well acted, but the subject is so overwhelming and finally diffuse it made him sore. Despite almost uniformly excellent performances critic was irritated by muddled structure that would need several readings of script to get clear. McClain concluded that he did not honestly dig the author's contentions.





GREEN
ROOM
DEPARTMENT



PROS & CONS BY TMK

HAMMERSTEIN TRIBUTES... Oscar Hammerstein II was pretty wonderful at that--a big, calm, easy gentleman who made a million dollars a year by expressing simple folks' feelings, states Ruark, *World Telegram & Sun*... Universal sadness over Hammerstein's death is proper recognition of his distinguished qualities as a man and his stature as a lyricist, comments Watts, *Post*. But critic thinks it is a little ironic in view of the quality of his work and the unanimity of his posthumous praise to recall the frequent and growing attacks on him while he was alive in which he was charged with taking the fun out of musical comedies and drenching them with sentimentality... Hammerstein admirers have started a movement to erect a statue to him, notes Kilgallen, *Journal American*... Hammerstein Festival starting with *Showboat* and *Carousel* slated for NY City Center hears Graham, *Mirror*... Mitchell Parish suggested as a possible new partner for Rodgers by Winchell, *Mirror*.

COLUMN TIPS... Feuer & Martin planning to buy the RKO Palace, hears Lyons, *Post*... Stork Club will drop \$5 million libel suit against Actors Equity if union will announce that members can attend the night club, tips Winchell, *Mirror*.

ACTORS' TROUBLES... NY actors who survive put up with a brand of indignity once reserved for bond service or livestock, concludes Silver, *News*. The actor acquires the hide of an elephant or the resilience of a jack-in-the-box. After a call and a turnaround he recharges his ego with the thought that what just passed for an audition was really no reflection on him or his ability. With all the fine actors making the rounds in NY it would seem a searching producer would need to hunt no farther than his outer office, his file cabinet or his memory.

CRITICAL THOUGHTS... Brendan Behan's publicity image as the "Drunken Irishmen" panned by Slocum, *Mirror*. If columnist could write a play and speak the Queen's English as well as the playwright, he would never do such a corny bit... Theatre could be healthy if it rid itself of the arrogance and sloth implied in the repellent phrase "Fabulous Invalid" and if it had a boldness for drastic remedies, urges Taubman, *Times*... Kerr, *Herald Tribune*, hopes for a nice, sensible NY season, no wild improbabilities, no mistaking fantasy for fact, just a decently organized report on the way people really behave.

LINCOLN SQ PROS... Two solid assets supporting the Lincoln Center Repertory Theatre which will open in NY in Oct 1963 are the long experience in commercial show business of its directors, Robert Whitehead and Elia Kazan, and its brilliant theatre plant, predicts Atkinson, *Times*, in his first "Critic at Large" column. Problem of admission currently worrying the directors is whether to set prices at \$3 to \$5 scale and try to break even, or plan a \$1 to \$5 scale and loss \$250,000 per year. Latter plan requires subsidy of some type. Critic votes for second choice noting that it would be wonderful if this institution could not only be an art theatre but a people's theatre as well.

HITS REVISITED... A Thurber Carnival is still a refresher course in all subjects that deserve our laughter, reports Aston, *World Telegram & Sun*. Eddie Mayehoff, who replaced Tom Ewell, is a splendid fool, and Patricia Bright and Joan Anderson, who replaced Alice Ghostly and Wynne Miller, are up to what Thurber would call snuff.

Marcel Marceau is the modern theatre's best educator. His place as a genius in the mime field already established on two previous visits to NY, at the Phoenix and the City Center, his new program at the latter uses all the techniques and emotions he taught his previous audiences to look for. It is unlikely that the popular and critical support would be forthcoming if the groundwork had not been so effortlessly done. His mastery of the art form grows as his audience has become more aware of the complete control he has over every section of his body and mind. Picture a bowl of jello with steel strings attached to each portion and you have a minor idea of the type of control he exhibits and the range of emotions he can portray in an instant's flash.

NY and London audiences this week were invited to see free two shows that were harshly panned by the critics. London's reviewers marked *The Princess*, an American ballet, as dull, but a solid week of free ticket holders voted 40 to 1 that the critics were wrong. Next week is the test for the admission prices to the West End Strand Theatre are back in force. In NY *Top Secret*, the anti-Nazi drama which opened the season at the Barbizon Plaza, is also offering free tickets, with no polls attached. From the tone of the reviews it would seem that NY theatre buffs would have to be paid to attend.

The 7 30 PM Wed curtain was an instantaneous success judging by the City Center audience awaiting Marcel Marceau. Almost the entire audience was in its place by 7 20, and only a handful of stragglers arrived about 8 PM. But for the record it must be noted that the same people who usually rush up the aisle at the hint of a final curtain at 11 PM were the exact same impulsive ones who rushed up the aisle at the hint of a final 10 PM curtain. The fact that they have no reason to rush on a Wed night has not dawned on them, and probably never will.

Who says the show must go on! Josh Logan and Jane Fonda have both given frank interviews stating that they did not want last season's flop *There Was a Little Girl* to be presented, and the actress' father also stated that he hoped his daughter would not get the leading role in what he considered a play in bad taste. It is too bad that all involved weren't as frank with each other last year as they now are with interviewers.

Theatre is a hazardous enough business without bi-monthly threats of strikes scaring off potential investors and playgoers. Demands for higher wages, pension funds and other fringe benefits are understandable, be they from actors or musicians. But the added penalty of forcing producers unwise enough to sign a star's contract granting a five week summer vacation to pay for a full orchestra during a period no money is coming in anyplace seems a great injustice. As long as there are certain stars who insist on the leisure of such summer vacations producers will probably have to put up with them. Musicians can just look for jobs in non-star shows that may not last until summer, and this worry is thus unnecessary.

Theatre Fact Chart presents up-to-minute data on current business and critical reaction on current Broadway and Off Broadway shows. Top week-end prices and opening dates are listed.

SUBSCRIBERS ONLY may write or phone for any other specific critical data and/or for specific critical details of late NYC reviews and Out of Town Tryout reviews.

"C"-Critical- figures refer to percentage of PRO votes filed by 7 NYC daily newspaper reviewers. PRO means show was recommended for entertaining and/or stimulating evening, not if critic predicted if show would be a commercial hit (earn back investment.)

"B"-Business- figures refer to percentage of gross ticket sales last week and indicates current availability of tickets. Figures that follow, all in thousands of dollars, are gross capacity (CAP) and corrected Variety gross estimates of past week and preceding weeks. Thus 100% B- Cap \$80--\$80-\$76 \$75- means show was a sellout last week at \$80,000, the previous week's gross was \$76,000, etc

BEST MAN Morosco \$7.50 3/31/60	235 W 45 CI 6-6230	100% C- 7 pro- 3 raves 95% B- Cap \$40--\$35 \$39 \$40 \$39 \$36
BYE BYE BIRDIE Beck \$8.60 4/14/60	302 W 45 CI 6-6363	90% C- 1 Con- Times-rest all raves 100% B- Cap \$58--\$58 \$58 \$58 \$57 \$57
FIORIELLO! Broadhurst \$9.40 11/23/59	235 W 44 CI 6-6699	100% C- 5 raves-Post, WTS milder book 100% B- Cap \$58--\$58 \$59 \$58 \$58 \$58
FIVE FINGER EXERCISE Music Box \$7.50 12/2/59	245 W 45 CI 6-4636	90% C- 1 Con- News- 5 raves 40% B- Cap \$40--\$16 \$18 \$17 \$15 \$14 \$15
GYPSY Imperial \$9.40 5/21/59	249 W 45 CI 5-2412	100% C- 7 pro- J Am milder on book 75% B- Cap \$64--\$46 \$50 \$51 vacation
LA PLUME Royale \$8.05 11/11/58	242 W 45 CI 5-5760	100% C- 6 raves-Times milder 75% B- Cap \$45--\$34 \$38 \$34 \$32 \$36
MIRACLE WORKER Playhouse \$7.50 10/19/59	137 W 48 CI 5-6060	100% C- 5 raves-Times, WTS milder 100% B- Cap \$36--\$36 \$36 \$35 \$32 \$30
MUSIC MAN Majestic \$8.05 12/19/57	245 W 44 CI 6-0730	100% C- 6 raves- H Trib milder 70% B- Cap \$70--\$43 \$47 \$45 \$41 \$40 \$44
MY FAIR LADY Hellinger \$8.05 3/15/56	235 W 51 PL 7-7064	100% C- 7 raves Play-News OK P Charls 70% B- Cap \$70--\$55 \$59 \$57 \$53 \$50

SOUND OF MUSIC Lunt \$9.90 11/16/59	205 W 44 JU 6-5555	90% C- 1 Con- H Trib- 3 raves 100% B- Cap \$75--\$76 \$76 \$76 \$75 vacat.
TAKE ME ALONG Shubert \$9.40 10/22/59	225 W 44 CI 6-5910	90% C- 1 Con- Mir-2 raves-News, WTS 70% B- Cap \$64--\$46 \$54 \$50 \$59 \$50
TENTH MAN Booth \$7.50 11/5/59	222 W 45 CI 6 5969	100% C- 7 pro-2 raves-Times, News 75% B- Cap \$32--\$23 \$26 \$27 \$26 \$23
THURBER CARNIVAL ANTA \$7.50 2/26/60	245 W 52 CI 6-6270	100% C- 6 raves-Mir milder Re-opened last week
TOYS IN ATTIC Hudson \$7.50 2/25/60	141 W 44 JU 6-2237	100% C- 5 raves-Times, J Am milder 50% B- Cap \$40--\$21 \$24 \$22 \$22 \$18
WEST SIDE STORY W Garden \$8.05 4/27/60	1674 Bway CI 5-4878	100% C- 7 pro on return of musical 75% B- Cap \$64--\$46 \$45 \$44 \$44 \$40

TV THEATRE PROGRAMS

Oct 22- CBS- The Disenchanted on Show of Month
 Oct 24- NBC- Shangri-La on Hall of Fame
 Nov 20- NBC- Macbeth on Hall of Fame with Judith Anderson
 Feb 7- NBC- Time Remembered on Hall of Fame

"CD" PROS & CONS

PROS: Best Man, Bye Bye Birdie, Five Finger Exercise, Gypsy
 La Plume, Miracle Worker, Music Man, My Fair Lady,
 Take Me Along, Thurber Carnival, Toys in Attic, West Side Story

Balcony, Country Scandal, Fantasticks, HMS Pinafore,
 Krapps Last Tape, Leave it To Jane, Little Mary Sunshine,
 Marcel Marceau, 3 Penny Opera

CONS: Sound of Music, Tenth Man

Between 2 Thieves, La Ronde

OFF BROADWAY

BALCONY Circle \$4.50 3/3/60	159 Bleecker GR 3-4950	3 Pro- Times, Post, WTS 3 Con- H Trib, News, J Am
BETWEEN 2 THIEVES York \$4.50 2/11/60	64 & 1st Av TR 9-4130	3 Pro- Times, J Am, WTS 2 Con- H Trib, Post
COUNTRY SCANDAL G Mews \$3.90 5/5/60	131 W 13 GR 3-6800	6 Pro- No Mirror Sat to Thur-No Fris
FANTASTICKS Sullivan \$4.60 5/3/60	181 Sullivan OR 4-3838	5 Pro- 1 Con- H Trib-No Mirror
HMS PINAFORE Phoenix \$4.60 9/7/60	189-2nd Av OR 4-7160	See Digests-Page 2 Limited 5 week run
KRAPPS LAST TAPE Provinc \$4.50 1/14/60	133 MacDoug GR 7-9894	6 Pro- No Mirror
LA RONDE T Marquee \$3.90 5/9/60	110 E 59 PL 3-2575	1 Pro- WTS (rave) 5 Con- All mild (no Mirror)
LEAVE IT TO JANE Sher Sq \$5 5/25/59	99-7th Av S CH 2-9244	5 Pro- 2 Con- H Trib, News
LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE Orpheum \$4.95 11/18/59	126-2nd Av OR 4-8140	6 Pro- 4 raves- No Mirror
MAN & SUPERMAN Jan Hus \$3.90 8/16/60	351 E 74 LE 5-6310	4 Pro- H Trib, News, J Am, Post 2 Con- Times, WTS
MARCEL MARCEAU C Center \$3.95 9/6/60	131 W 55 CI 6-8989	7 Pros-most raves Limited 3 week run
3 PENNY OPERA De Lys \$4.85 9/20/54	121 Chris WA 4-8782	3 Pro- Times, H Trib, Post
TOP SECRET Bar Pl \$0- 9/5/60	108 W 58 CI 7-7000	5 Con- No News, Mirror
LIVING REPERTORY Living \$3.45	530-6th Av CH 2-4569	Connection-5 Con-1 Pro-Post 7/5/59 Theatre Chance-1 Pro-Post 6/22/60

NYC THEATRE CALENDAR

Vintage '60- Atkinson 9/12 Dance of Death- Key 9/13 World of Carl Sandberg-Miller 9/14 Here Comes the Clowns-Actors Play 9/19 The Hostage-Cort 9/20 The Idiot- Gate 9/25 Christopher's Wonders-Maidman 9/26 Farewell, Farewell Eugene-Hayes 9/27 A Delightful Season- Gram Arts 9/28 Greenwich Village USA-I Sher Sq 9/28 Irma La Douce-Plymouth 9/29	Laurette-Beck-10/27 She Stops to Conquer-Phoenix 11/1 Rape of the Belt-ANTA 11/2 Unsinkable M Brown-W Garden 11/3 The Mousetrap-Maidman 11/5 Period of Adjustment-Hayes 11/10 Open Up Your Heart-11/10 Taffy- 11/15 Camelot-Majestic 11/16 Under Yum Yum Tree-Miller 11/16 Advice & Consent- Cort 11/17 Tree Groves Bklyn-Bar Plaza 11/28 Love & Libel- 11/30 All the Way Home-Belasco -11/30
Provincetown Show-Provinc 10/1 Deep Are the Roots-St Marks 10/2 When We Dead Awaken-4th St 10/3 A Taste of Honey-Lyceum 10/4 Becket- St James- 10/6 Valmouth- York- 10/6 Mike & Elaine Revue-Golden 10/8 Laughs & Other Events-Barrym 10/10 The Wall- Rose- 10/11 Kittiwake Island-Martique 10/12 Darwin's Theories-Mad, Av 10/2 Drums Under Window-C Lane 10/13 Shoemaker & Peddler-East 74- 10/13 Shepards on the Shelf-Blackfriar 10/14 Tenderloin- 46th St- 10/17 Face of a Hero- O'Neill 10/22 49th Cousin- Ambassador 10/25 Invitation to a March-M Box 10/26	Little Moon of Alban-Longacre 12/1 Critic's Choice-Barrymore 12/14 Wildcat- Alvin-12/15 Do Re Mi- St James-12/26 The Tiger Rag-T Marquee 12/? The Hero- ANTA 1/5 Rhinoseros- 1/5 Showgirl- 1/14 Love & Death- 1/15 I'm With Your- 2/1 13 Daughters- 2/9 Comedie Francaise-C Center 2/21 The Caretaker- Miller 2/?



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